

Sub E2 } 3. (Thrice Amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein  
the isolated polypeptide has an amino acid sequence [encoded by exon III is  
SEQ ID NO:1] selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NOS: 2 and 1, and  
SEQ ID NOS: 2, 1, and 3.

Sub E1 } 4. (Thrice Amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim [1]3 wherein said  
peptide has at least one pair of disulfide bonded cysteine residues selected from the group  
consisting of:-

- (i) Cys<sub>71</sub>-Cys<sub>189</sub>;  
(ii) Cys<sub>257</sub>-Cys<sub>270</sub>;  
(iii) Cys<sub>259</sub>-Cys<sub>270</sub>;  
(iv) Cys<sub>306</sub>-Cys<sub>322</sub>; and  
(v) Cys<sub>362</sub>-Cys<sub>365</sub>;

Sub E1 } 5. (Amended Four Times) An isolated polypeptide which is capable of binding  
a LERK, said polypeptide consisting essentially of [an]the amino acid sequence [set forth in]of  
SEQ ID NO:4.

Please add the following Claim:

Sub E1 } 6. The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein exon III  
has the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:1.

### REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Notice to Comply mailed from the Patent and Trademark Office on June 19, 2000 in which the Examiner asserts that the Claims fail to comply with the Sequence Rules, 37 C.F.R. 1.821, because said claims refer to an amino acid sequence without reference to a SEQ ID NO identifier. However, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to remove the reference to an amino acid sequence and to claim the isolated polypeptide sequence by its exons. Support for the amended claim can be found in the claims as filed. Amended Claim 1 now refers to the claimed polypeptide by exon inclusion as: exon II, exons II and III, or exons II, III and I of an Eph receptor tyrosine kinase gene. Therefore, Claim 1 does not require sequence identifiers, because it is not claiming a specific sequence, but a family of sequences. Claim 4 has been amended to be dependant on amended Claim 3. Original Claim 3 has been included as new claim 42. No new matter has been added herewith.

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**Conclusion**

In light of the Applicant's amendments to the claims and the specification as well as the foregoing Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns which might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

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